

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 07428 082231Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----004842 082235Z /73
O 082138Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9389
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 7428

EXDIS

FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY VAKY

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, BL
SUBJ: FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT PEREZ
RE BOLIVIA

REF: BOGOTA 7383, BOGOTA 7387

1. PRESIDENT PEREZ DESCRIBED WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS AN ENCOURAGING CONVERSATION WITH BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT PEREDA LAST NIGHT AUGUST 7. PEREZ SAID THAT HE TOLD PEREDA THAT THE ONLY HOPE OF AVOIDING VIOLENCE AND REPRESSION WAS FIRST TO REACH SOME AGREEMENT WITH POLITICAL SECTORS LIKE PAZ ESTENSORRO AND WALTER GUEVARA; SECONDLY TO HOLD ELECTIONS SOMETIME IN 1979. IF PEREDA WAITED TOO LONG, PEREZ SAID, ALL ELEMENTS WOULD OPPOSE HIM AND TROUBLE WOULD ENSUE. SILES WOULD TRY TO BUILD UP PRESSURE FOR EARLY ELECTIONS AND THE LONGER THESE WERE DELAYED THE WORSE THE SITUATION WOULD BECOME. PAZ ON THE OTHER HAND WHILE NOT WANTING ELECTIONS THIS YEAR WOULD WANT THEM RELATIVELY SOON IN 1979. IF PEREDA WERE TO REACH AN UNDERSTANDING WITH PAZ AND OTHER ELEMENTS ON THIS TIMETABLE THEN SILES AND BANZER WOULD BE CONTROLLABLE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 07428 082231Z

2. PEREDA ACKNOWLEDGE THIS ANALYSIS AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO BROADEN THE CONSENSUS WITH POLITICAL PARTIES BUT HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO DO SO AS YET. PEREZ PROMISED TO HELP IN THIS BY USING HIS INFLUENCE WITH PAZ AND GUEVARA AS WELL AS USING HIS INFLUENCE WITH SILES TO KEEP HIM "MODERATE".

3. PEREZ SAID THAT HE AND PEREDA AGREED TO STAY IN CONTACT AND

WORK ALONG THESE LINES AND THAT HE (PEREZ) WOULD BESENDING SOME INTERMEDIARIES TO TALK TO PAZ. PEREZ ADDED THAT HE THOUGHT PEREDA WAS VERY SINCERE AND THAT HE HAD THINGS ON THE RIGHT TRACK AND HE WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE ELECTORAL CALENDARS WOULD BE SPEEDED UP. PEREZ ADDED THAT BANZER MAY BE A PROBLEM SINCE HE SCARED BOTH PAZ AND SILAS AND BOTH WOULD FEAR A BANZER CANDIDACY.

4. PEREZ SUGGESTED TO PEREDA THAT 11 OF THE EX-PRESIDENTS COMMIT THEMSELVES TO NOT REPEAT NOT TO BE A CANDIDATE, PAS HE SAID, HAD ALREADY PROMISED HIM (PEREZ) THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE SUCH A COMMITMENT. PEREZ THOUGHT HE COULD ALSO PRESSURE SILAS INTO SUCH A COMMITMENT. HE SAID THAT PEREDA AGREED TO THIS IDEA IF IT COULD BE WORKED OUT.

5. PEREZ TOLD ME THAT HE HAD ALSO TALKED TO PERUVIAN PRIME MINISTER OSCAR MOLINA ABOUT RESOLVING THE BOLIVIAN ACCESS TO THE SEA PROBLEM. PEREZ SAID HE EXPLAINED BOTH TO MOLINA AND PEREDA THE COMMITMENT OF THE CHIEFS OF STATE GATHERED AT PANAMA (INCLUDING PRESIDENT CARTER) TO TRY TO HELP SUCH A RESOLUTION. PEREZ SAID THAT BOTH MOLINA AND PEREDA SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN THIS AND IN THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING SOME PROGRESS ON THIS PROBLEM IN 1979.

6. I TOLD PRESIDENT PEREZ THAT I HAD ALSO TALKED TO PEREDA AND HAD EXPLAINED OUR GREAT INTEREST IN HIS COMMITMENT TO RETURN TO A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND THAT I HAD STATED THAT THE USG WOULD HOPE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 07428 082231Z

THAT THIS COULD BE DONE AS SOON AND AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE. I ADDED THAT WE WERE CONSIDERING PROCEEDING WITH OUR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO BASIC HUMAN NEEDS. PEREZ SAID HE THOUGHT THIS WAS HIGHLY IMPORTANT AND THAT PEREZ' CAPACITY TO CARRY OUT HIS INTENTIONS SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE. PEREZ CONCLUDED THE CONVERSATION BY SAYING THAT HERE AS IN ECUADOR HE THOUGHT THINGS WERE ON THE RIGHT TRACK. THEY WOULD, HOWEVER, REQUIRE OUR CONTINUED HELP AND OBSERVATION.

7. COMMENT: MY CONCLUSION FROM THIS CONVERSATION AND MY OWN TALK WITH PEREDA IS THAT PEREDA IS SINCERE IN TRYING TO FIND A VIABLE RETURN TO THE ELECTORAL PROCESS. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD NOW TAKE HIM AT FACE VALUE AND TRY TO STRENGTHEN HIS HAND IN THIS ENDEAVOR.
ASENCIO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMOCRACY, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BOGOTA07428
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780324-1043
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780884/aaaacsrd.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3df66d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 BOGOTA 7383, 78 BOGOTA 7387
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 aug 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1797754
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT PEREZ RE BOLIVIA
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BL, VE, (PEREZ, CARLOS ANDRES), (PEREDA ASBUN, JUAN)
To: STATE LA PAZ
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3df66d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014